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SENATE

{ REPORT  
{ No. 2075

## AMENDING THE FEDERAL PROPERTY AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES ACT OF 1949, AS AMENDED, IN SEVERAL PARTICULARS

JULY 2 (legislative day, JUNE 27), 1952.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. McCLELLAN, from the Committee on Government Operations, submitted the following

### REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 5350]

The Committee on Government Operations, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 5350) to amend further the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with amendments and recommend that the bill as amended do pass.

The committee amendments are as follows:

Page 2, line 2, immediately following "laws", insert the following:  
because such lands are not substantially changed in character by improvements

Page 2, line 10, immediately following the comma, after the figure "2", insert the following:

to the extent that payment is not made or credit allowed therefor,

Page 2, line 11, strike all of this line and insert in lieu thereof the following:

(d) By deleting the figure "\$75,000,000" in the third sentence of section 109 (a) and inserting in lieu thereof the figure "\$150,000,000".

Page 3, line 19, immediately following "be", insert the following:  
prepared and submitted to the appropriate committees of Congress and a copy

Page 4, line 9, immediately following the period, insert the following new sentence:

Accounting for the fund shall be maintained on the accrual method and financial reports shall be prepared on the basis of such accounting.

Page 4, line 11, immediately following "required," insert the following:

but not to exceed the amount of \$10,000,000.

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Page 5, line 11, strike "245" and insert in lieu thereof "345".

Page 6, immediately following line 10, insert the following new section:

SEC. 2. Section 29 of the World War Veterans' Act, 1924 (43 Stat. 615; 38 U. S. C. 455), as amended by section 3 of the Act of October 31, 1951 (Public Law 247, 82d Cong.), is further amended by adding at the end thereof the following sentence: "The proceeds from such leases, less expenses for maintenance, operation, and repair of buildings leased for living quarters, shall be covered into the Treasury of the United States as miscellaneous receipts."

The above amendments provide for the establishment of ceilings for the general supply fund and the buildings management fund, and for clarification or correction of provisions in the bill as passed by the House of Representatives. In the last amendment, the committee provides for the restoration of language in section 29 of the World War Veterans' Act, 1924, which was inadvertently deleted in Public Law 247 (82d Cong.), a general repealer of obsolete property laws. Adoption of this amendment will permit the Veterans' Administration to use proceeds from leases of living quarters maintained in connection with hospitals and other installations in the maintenance, operation, and repair of such quarters.

### PURPOSE

The amendments contained in H. R. 5350 to the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended, are intended to clarify existing provisions of law and to provide greater flexibility in the administration of the act. These amendments were prepared and are based on actual administrative experience in the administration of the various programs entrusted to the General Services Administration. These amendments were reviewed and approved by the various Federal departments and agencies which utilize the facilities of the GSA in connection with procurement, supply, warehousing, distribution, and management of real and personal property throughout the Government service. These amendments, together with the recommendations of the interested agencies, were submitted to the Congress under a directive requiring the Administrator of the General Services Administration to make continuous surveys and recommendations to the Congress for additional legislation designed to improve the administration of the Federal property laws.

Provision is made in the bill, as reported by the committee, for a number of amendments to the act, some of which are of a perfecting nature, while others are of a clarification or corrective nature. The most important features of this bill are designed to—

(1) Increase the capital of the general supply fund from the present statutory ceiling of \$75,000,000 to \$150,000,000.

(2) Allow greater flexibility in determining the amount of reimbursement for transfer of excess property among executive agencies.

(3) Extend to June 30, 1953, the authority to dispose of surplus property by negotiation.

(4) Authorize the establishment of a buildings management working capital fund.

### GENERAL STATEMENT

The committee believes that the enactment of H. R. 5350 with the committee amendments, would provide greater flexibility in the administration and management of Federal property and mark another

milestone of progress in increased economy and efficiency in Government operations. The major provisions of the bill as listed in the preceding paragraph are further explained as follows:

*Increasing the capital of the general supply fund*

The bill, as passed by the House, authorizes the inclusion in the general supply fund, as added capital of that revolving fund, of the value of inventories taken over by GSA in connection with consolidations of procurement and supply functions under the authority contained in section 201 (a) (2) of the Property Act "to the extent that payment is not made or credit allowed therefor." The quoted language is added by a committee amendment suggested by the General Accounting Office. So far as the value of such inventories can be used to augment the fund, the capital necessary for the resultant expanded operations can be provided without additional appropriations. The House bill removes the present statutory limitation of \$75,000,000 on the authorized capital of the general supply fund; the committee amendment would retain the ceiling and increase it to \$150,000,000. This amendment was inserted by the committee in order that an over-all ceiling would be established. The committee believes that this is a reasonable restriction on the operation of the supply fund under the presently projected program, and, therefore, recommends that it be accepted by the Congress. Studies to date indicate that the Department of Defense consumption of common-use items runs about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 in relation to present GSA procurement of these items for the civilian agencies. This might require a further increase in the capital to approximately \$250,000,000 as against the existing appropriated capital of \$44,000,000, as the program advances, if GSA were to take over procurement and supply of all such items for the Department of Defense.

*Increased flexibility in reimbursement for transfers of excess property*

The purpose of this provision of the bill (subsec. (f)) is to permit better utilization of excess property by other Federal agencies which have need for such property. Experience has clearly demonstrated that a considerable amount of excess property which has been reported to the GSA for redistribution to other Federal agencies cannot under existing authority be transferred to the needing agencies, since reimbursement is required under the "fair value" provision of section 202 of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended. The needing agencies contend that they have no funds available for reimbursing the owning agency, and GSA does not have authority to transfer without reimbursement, and as a result the best utilization of excess property is not attained. This amendment to the act would liberalize the effect of the statute and at the same time provide a more flexible method for transfer so that greater utilization of excess property could be attained, while at the same time retaining existing exceptions specifically authorized by law.

The revision of section 202 (a) of the act proposed by subsection (f) of the bill would promote greater utilization of excess property by permitting the Administrator of General Services to determine, with the approval of the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, the extent to which reimbursement for such excess property will be required from executive agencies, when transferred from one Federal agency to another.

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This amendment of section 202 (a) will remove the need for requesting specific legislation, in order that excess real property may be transferred from GSA to another agency without reimbursement. The amendment would permit better-quality available excess items to replace old items in poor condition, thus allowing the disposal as surplus of the outmoded equipment and reducing procurement of new property. Without such flexibility, available excess would have to be disposed of either by donation for educational or public health purposes or by sale unless another agency had an immediate or reasonably foreseeable need. The amendment would also facilitate use of excess property in the supply of furniture and furnishings for Government office buildings; the transfer of small lots of excess items where the cost of processing transfer documents is out of proportion to the value of the property; and, as now provided in the act, the taking of excess items into General Services Administration supply centers for later redistribution to agencies.

It is intended that when regulations are developed to implement this subsection, in collaboration with the Bureau of the Budget, due regard will be given to procedures that will either preclude undue augmentation of specific appropriations provided for the acquisition of property or take into account in subsequent appropriations prior transfers of excess property. The committee in approving this provision also intends that transfers of excess property by the Administrator be carefully related to the actual supply needs and inventory situation in the receiving agency.

The provisos in this subsection require that there must be reimbursement whenever net proceeds are requested pursuant to section 204 (b) of the act (when property was originally acquired by the use of reimbursable funds or funds not appropriated from the general fund of the Treasury). Similar reimbursement will be required when transfers are made to or from wholly owned Government corporations and those organizations specified in section 109 (f) (principally mixed-ownership Government corporations and the government of the District of Columbia). Another proviso also makes it clear that excess property that has been taken into supply centers of the General Services Administration for redistribution shall be retransferred to agencies at prices fixed by the Administrator.

##### *Extension of time for negotiated sales of surplus property*

The amendment proposed by subsection (i) of the bill would provide greater flexibility in negotiating sales of surplus property. The authority to negotiate the disposal of surplus property was originally contained in the Surplus Property Act of 1944, as amended, and continued under the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, until December 31, 1950. When the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act was considered by the Congress it was believed that this authority could expire by that date without causing any difficulty or delay in the disposal program. However, by reason of the action in Korea, certain parcels of real property which formerly were declared excess to the needs of the Department of Defense, were withdrawn from disposal, but subsequently again declared excess. It is the belief of the Administrator of General Services that this authority should be continued, at least until June 30, 1953, in order that the most effective handling of these properties may be realized.

Under existing authority, the sale of surplus property is required to be made by advertising and competitive bids. The administrator of General Services has informed the committee that the present lack of authority to negotiate sales has rendered difficult the disposal of some industrial and other real property, and has added to the cost of disposing of some lots of surplus personal property. House Report No. 1524 suggested that studies should be undertaken now with a view to considering further legislation dealing with this problem in the next Congress in order to provide an orderly means of disposing of surplus property. Meanwhile, the committee has approved an extension, on an interim basis, of authority for negotiation of surplus property sales until June 30, 1953.

This section requires an explanatory statement to be prepared and submitted to the appropriate committees of Congress on each property disposed of by negotiation. This amendment is intended to require the GSA to submit such reports prior to the disposition of each property to the jurisdictional committees, the Senate Committee on Government Operations and the House Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments in order that these committees may have up-to-date information on the extent of this program.

#### *Establishment of buildings management fund*

The amendment contained in subsection (1) of the bill provides for the establishment of a buildings management fund to be operated on a revolving basis. The Public Buildings Service of the General Services Administration has for many years performed certain buildings management services for other agencies on a reimbursable basis. The services rendered consist of two types, that is, nonrecurring and recurring. A typical example of nonrecurring service rendered by GSA to another Federal agency is making building alterations to suit the convenience of the tenant agency. An example of the recurring type of service furnished is GSA operation of Nation-wide teletypewriter service for the use of Government agencies. It is estimated by the Administrator that during fiscal year 1953 GSA will provide services reimbursable from funds of other agencies to the extent of \$40,000,000.

There has been a trend in Government financing toward the establishment of working capital funds for those Government operations which are of a business type by nature. Experience has shown that where one agency provides services to others subject to reimbursement of actual or estimated costs thereof, both operations and accounting therefor are facilitated by the use of a working capital fund. Recent examples of legislative recognition of this fact have been the establishment of working capital funds for the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and the Bureau of Standards to finance the reimbursable services performed by those agencies.

The committee believes that financing all buildings management operations from one fund would simplify the administrative processes of estimating and justifying future fund requirements for such purposes. It would also present financial requirements for these operations in one place in the budget document, which would make less burdensome the review of estimates for these purposes by the Congress.

The accounting and reporting processes would be simplified and conducted more economically since the number of accounts could be

reduced if buildings management operations were initially financed from one fund. Reduction in the number of accounts produces the byproduct of more economical and effective reporting. Billing other agencies for services rendered would also be simplified inasmuch as service rates could be established on the basis, in part, of historical costs accumulated in one set of buildings management cost accounts.

Reimbursable buildings management services are presently financed from the annual operating appropriation to GSA. This method of financing causes difficulties near the end of each fiscal year due to the fact that there is an unavoidable time lag between the date a service is rendered and paid for by GSA and the date on which the agency served reimburses GSA. This situation operates against prompt payments to lessors, vendors, and contractors near the end of each year.

The principal purpose served by the first proviso in the proposed language of the amendment is to permit the crediting of advances to the working-capital fund. Such permission will reduce the amount of appropriated capital which will be required to operate such fund. In other words, day-to-day working capital requirements can be partially met by obtaining cash—from at least the larger service-using agencies—prior to rendering and paying for such services by GSA.

The second proviso requires the transfer of net income of any year, if any, to the general fund of the Treasury. While the General Services Administration as a matter of policy would attempt to charge service-using agencies in amounts which would exactly cover the cost of services performed, the results of any miscalculations in this regard could never benefit the Administration.

At the suggestion of representatives from the General Accounting Office the committee amended subsection (f) in order that the accounting for the fund will be maintained on the accrual method and financial reports reflecting the status and condition of the fund will be prepared on the basis of such accounting. The committee further amended this subsection of the bill in order to place a ceiling of \$10,000,000 on the amount of appropriations for the buildings management fund. This amendment was agreed to by the General Services Administration and it was the committee's belief that some limitation should be established on this fund which would not jeopardize or hinder the operations proposed thereunder.

In accordance with the standard accounting practices of private industry, this subsection also requires the capitalization of all available supplies and equipment used in the operation, maintenance, and repair of buildings. The General Services Administration estimates that, exclusive of office furniture, which it is not contemplated will be capitalized, the present depreciated value of these supplies and equipment will not exceed \$10,000,000. Any appropriation of funds must be justified by submission of estimates to the Bureau of the Budget and the Appropriations Committees as provided by existing general law. Under this provision of the bill, however, the fund can be established and put in operation, on a modest basis, by capitalizing supplies and equipment and by transfers by way of advances from existing appropriations.

The bill, as amended by the committee, was approved in executive session by the General Services Administration, the Bureau of the Budget, the General Accounting Office, and the Department of the Interior. The Department of Defense also expressed accord with

the objectives and general purposes of the bill, subject to certain agreements entered into between that Department and the General Services Administration, and made of record at the hearings relative to certain aspects of the proposed procurement and supply functions involved.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with subsection (4) of rule XXIX of the Standing Rules of the Senate, changes in existing law made by the bill (H. R. 5350), as reported, are shown as follows: (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italics, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

FEDERAL PROPERTY AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES ACT OF 1949, AS AMENDED

\* \* \* \* \*  
SEC. 3. As used in this Act—

(d) The term "property" means any interest in property of any kind except (1) the public domain (*including lands withdrawn or reserved from the public domain which the Administrator, with the concurrence of the Secretary of the Interior, determines are suitable for return to the public domain for disposition under the general public land laws because such lands are not substantially changed in character by improvements*) and lands reserved or dedicated for national forest or national park purposes; (2) naval vessels of the following categories: Battleships, cruisers, aircraft carriers, destroyers, and submarines; and (3) records of the Federal Government.

\* \* \* \* \*  
(k) The term "contractor inventory" means (1) any property acquired by and in the possession of a contractor or subcontractor under a contract pursuant to the terms of which title is vested in the Government, and in excess of the amounts needed to complete full performance under the entire contract; and (2) any property which the Government is obligated or *has the option to* take over under any type of contract as a result either of any changes in the specifications or plans thereunder or of the termination of such contract (or subcontract thereunder), prior to completion of the work, for the convenience or at the option of the Government.

\* \* \* \* \*  
SEC. 109. (a) There is hereby authorized to be set aside in the Treasury a special fund which shall be known as the General Supply Fund. Such fund shall be composed of the assets of the general supply fund (including any surplus therein) created by section 3 of the Act of February 27, 1929 (45 Stat. 1342; 41 U. S. C. 7c), and transferred to the Administrator by section 102 of this Act, [and] such sums as may be appropriated thereto, *and the value, as determined by the Administrator, of inventories of personal property from time to time transferred to the Administrator by other executive agencies under authority of section 201 (a) (2) to the extent that payment is not made or credit allowed therefor,* and the fund shall assume all of the liabilities, obligations, and commitments of the general supply fund created by such act of February 27, 1929. The capital of the General Supply Fund shall be in an amount not greater than [\$75,000,000.] *\$150,000,000.* The General Supply Fund shall be available for use by or under the direction and control of the Administrator (1) for procuring personal property (including the purchase from or through the Public Printer, for warehouse issue, of standard forms, blankbook work, standard specifications, and other printed material in common use by Federal agencies not available through the Superintendent of Documents) and nonpersonal services for the use of Federal agencies in the proper discharge of their responsibilities, and (2) for paying the purchase price, transportation to first storage point of supplies and services, and the cost of personal services employed directly in the repair, rehabilitation, and conversion of personal property.

\* \* \* \* \*  
(f) Subject to the requirements of subsections (a) to (e), inclusive, of this section, the General Supply Fund also may be used for the procurement of supplies and nonpersonal services authorized to be acquired by mixed-ownership Government corporations, or by the municipal government of the District of Columbia, or by a requisitioning non-Federal agency when the function of a Federal agency

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authorized to procure for it is transferred to the General Services Administration [Provided, That the prices charged by the Administrator in such cases shall be fixed at levels which he estimates will be sufficient to recover, in addition to the direct costs of the procurement, handling, and distribution of such supplies and services, the indirect and overhead costs that the Administrator determines are allocable thereto].

\* \* \* \* \*

SEC. 202. (a) In order to minimize expenditures for property, the Administrator shall prescribe policies and methods to promote the maximum utilization of excess property by executive agencies, and he shall provide for the transfer of excess property among Federal agencies and to the organizations specified in section 109 (f). The Administrator, with the approval of the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, shall prescribe the extent of reimbursement for such transfers of excess property: *Provided, That reimbursement shall be required of the fair value, as determined by the Administrator, of any excess property transferred whenever net proceeds are requested pursuant to section 204 (b) or whenever either the transferor or the transferee agency (or the organizational unit affected) is subject to the Government Corporation Control Act (59 Stat. 597, 31 U. S. C. 841) or is an organization specified in section 109 (f); and that excess property determined by the Administrator to be suitable for distribution through the supply centers of the General Services Administration shall be retransferred at prices fixed by the Administrator with due regard to prices established in accordance with section 109 (b).*

\* \* \* \* \*

(c) Each executive agency shall, as far as practicable, \* \* \* (2) transfer excess property under its control to other Federal agencies and to organizations specified in section 109 (f), and \* \* \*

\* \* \* \* \*

[(d) Under existing provisions of law and procedures defined by the Secretary of Defense, and without regard to the requirements of this section except subsection (f), excess property of one of the departments of the National Military Establishment may be transferred to another department thereof.]

[(e) Transfers of excess property between Federal agencies (except transfers for redistribution to other Federal agencies or for disposal as surplus property) shall be at the fair value thereof, as determined by, or pursuant to regulations of, the Administrator, unless such transfer is otherwise authorized by any law approved subsequent to June 21, 1944, to be without reimbursement or transfer of funds.]

[(f) The Director of the Bureau of the Budget shall prescribe regulations providing for the reporting to said Director by executive agencies of such reassignments or transfers of property between activities financed by different appropriations as he shall deem appropriate, and the reassignments and transfers so reported shall be reported to the Congress in the annual budget or otherwise as said Director may determine.]

\* \* \* \* \*

SEC. 203. (e) Unless the Administrator shall determine that disposal by advertising will be in a given case better protect the public interest, surplus property disposals may be made without regard to any provision of existing law for advertising until 12 o'clock noon, eastern standard time, [December 31, 1950] *June 30, 1953; Provided, That an explanatory statement shall be prepared and submitted to the appropriate committees of Congress and a copy preserved in the file of all cases where negotiated disposal occurs.*

\* \* \* \* \*

SEC. 203. (k) (2) \* \* \*

(iii) to (I) grant releases from any of the terms, conditions, reservations, and restrictions contained in, and (II) convey, quitclaim, or release to the transferee or other eligible user any right or interest reserved to the United States by, any instrument by which such transfer was made, if he determines that the property so transferred no longer serves the purpose for which it was transferred, [and] or that such release, conveyance, or quitclaim deed will not prevent accomplishment of the purpose for which such property was so transferred: \* \* \*

\* \* \* \* \*

SEC. 206. (b) Each Federal agency shall utilize such uniform Federal supply catalog system and standardized forms and procedures and standard purchase

specifications, except as the Administrator, taking into consideration efficiency, economy, and other interests of the Government, shall otherwise provide.

\* \* \* \* \*

SEC. 210. \* \* \*

(f) There may be established by the Secretary of the Treasury, on such date during the fiscal year 1953 as may be determined by the Administrator, a Buildings Management Fund, which shall be available, without fiscal year limitation, for expenses necessary for buildings management operations and related services, authorized by law to be performed by the General Services Administration. Accounting for the fund shall be maintained on the accrual method and financial reports shall be prepared on the basis of such accounting. There is authorized to be appropriated to said Fund such sums as may be required, but not to exceed the amount of \$10,000,000, and any stocks of supplies and any equipment, available for buildings management functions of the General Services Administration, on hand, or on order, on the date of establishment of said Fund, shall also be used to capitalize the Fund: Provided, That said Fund shall be credited with (1) annual advances for non-recurring expenses, quarterly advances for other expenses, and reimbursements from available appropriations and funds of the General Services Administration and of any other agency, person, or organization to which services, space, quarters, maintenance, repair, or other facilities are furnished, at rates to be determined by the Administrator on the basis of estimated or actual costs (including accrued leave, and maintenance, repair, and, where applicable, depreciation of equipment) and (2) all other reimbursements, and refunds or recoveries resulting from operations of the Fund, including the net proceeds of disposal of excess or surplus personal property and receipts from carriers and others for loss of, or damage to property: Provided further, That following the close of each fiscal year any net income, after making provision for prior year losses, if any, shall be covered into the Treasury of the United States as miscellaneous receipts: Provided further, That said Fund shall not be available for expenses of carrying out the provisions of the Act of June 24, 1948 (62 Stat. 844) or section 5 of the Act of May 25, 1926, as amended (40 U. S. C. 345), and shall not be credited with receipts from operations under said provisions of law, or (except as provided in this section for the net proceeds of disposal of excess or surplus property and receipts from loss or damage to property) with any receipts required by any other law to be credited to miscellaneous receipts of the Treasury.

\* \* \* \* \*

Sec. 301: The purpose of this title is to facilitate the procurement of [supplies] property and services.

Sec. 302. (a) The provisions of this title shall be applicable to purchases and contracts for [supplies] property or services made—

\* \* \* \* \*

The Administrator may delegate to the head of any other such agency authority to make purchases and contracts for [supplies] property or services pursuant to the provisions of this title \* \* \*

(b) It is the declared policy of the Congress that a fair proportion of the total purchases and contracts for [supplies] property and services for the Government shall be placed with small-business concerns. Whenever it is proposed to make a contract or purchase in excess of \$10,000 by negotiation and without advertising, pursuant to the authority of paragraph (7) or (8) of section 302 (c) of this title, suitable advance publicity, as determined by the agency head with due regard to the type of [supplies] property involved and other relevant considerations, shall be given for a period of at least fifteen days, wherever practicable, as determined by the agency head.

(c) All purchases and contracts for [supplies] property and services shall be made by advertising, as provided in section 303, except that such purchases and contracts may be negotiated by the agency head without advertising if—

\* \* \* \* \*

(3) the aggregate amount involved does not exceed \$1,000: Provided, that no agency other than the General Services Administration shall make any purchase of, or contract for, [supplies] property or services in excess of \$500 under this paragraph except in the exercise of authority conferred by the Administrator to procure and furnish [supplies] property and services for the use of two or more executive agencies:

\* \* \* \* \*

(6) the [supplies] property or services are to be procured and used outside the limits of the United States and its possessions;

(7) for medicines or medical [supplies] property;

(8) for [supplies] property purchased for authorized resale;

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(9) for [supplies] property or services for which it is impracticable to secure competition;

(10) the agency head determines that the purchase or contract is for experimental, developmental, or research work, or for the manufacture or furnishing of [supplies] property for experimentation development, research, or test: *Provided*, That beginning six months after the effective date of this title and at the end of each six month period thereafter, there shall be furnished to the Congress a report setting forth the name of each contractor with whom a contract has been entered into pursuant to this paragraph (10) since the date of the last such report, the amount of the contract, and, with due consideration given to the national security, a description of the work required to be performed thereunder;

(11) for [supplies] property or services as to which the agency head determines that the character, ingredients, or components thereof are such that the purchase or contract should not be publicly disclosed;

(13) for [supplies] property or services as to which the agency head determines that bid prices after advertising therefor are not reasonable (either as to all or as to some part of the requirements) or have not been independently arrived at in open competition:

SEC. 303. Whenever advertising is required—

(a) The advertisement for bids shall be made a sufficient time previous to the purchase or contract, and specifications and invitations for bids shall permit such full and free competition as is consistent with the procurement of types of [supplies] property and services necessary to meet the requirements of the agency concerned.

SEC. 305. (a) The agency head may make advance payments under negotiated contracts heretofore or hereafter executed in any amount not exceeding the contract price upon such terms as the parties shall agree: *Provided*, That advance payments shall be made only upon adequate security and if the agency head determines that provision for such advance payments is in the public interest or in the interest of the national defense and is necessary and appropriate in order to procure required [supplies] property or services under the contract.

(b) The terms governing advance payments may include as security provision for, and upon inclusion of such provision there shall thereby be created, a lien in favor of the Government, paramount to all other liens, upon the [supplies] property contracted for, upon the credit balance in any special account in which such payments may be deposited and upon such of the material and other property acquired for performance of the contract as the parties shall agree.

SEC. 309. As used in this title—

(a) The term "agency head" shall mean the head or any assistant head of any executive agency, and may at the option of the Administrator include the chief official of any principal organizational unit of the General Services Administration.

[(b) The term "supplies" shall mean all property except land, and shall include, by way of description and without limitation, public works, buildings, facilities, ships, floating equipment, and vessels of every character, type, and description (except the categories of naval vessels named in section 3 (d)), aircraft, parts, accessories, equipment, machine tools and alteration or installation thereof.]

SEC. 310. (a) The following provisions of law shall not apply to the procurement of [supplies] property or services (1) by the General Services Administration, or (2) within the scope of authority delegated by the Administrator to any other executive agency:

Revised Statutes, section 3709, as amended (41 U. S. C. 5);

Revised Statutes, section 3735 (41 U. S. C. 13);

Sections 1 and 2 of the Act of October 10, 1940 (54 Stat. 1109, as amended; 41 U. S. C. 6 and 6a).

(b) *Reference in any Act, except subsection (a) of this section, to the applicability of Revised Statutes, section 3709, as amended (41 U. S. C. 5), to the procurement of property or services by the General Services Administration or any constituent organization thereof shall be deemed to be reference to section 302 (c) of this Act.*

SEC. 507. (c) The Administrator shall make provisions for the preservation, arrangement, repair and rehabilitation, duplication and reproduction (including microcopy publications), description, and exhibition of records or other docu-

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*mentary material* transferred to him as may be needful or appropriate, including the preparation and publication of inventories, indexes, catalogs, and other finding aids or guides facilitating their use; *and he may also prepare guides and other finding aids to Federal records* and, when approved by the National Historical Publications Commission, [he may also] publish such historical works and collections of sources as seem appropriate for printing or otherwise recording at the public expense.

\* \* \* \* \*

(e) The administrator may accept for deposit—

\* \* \* \* \*

(2) *documents, including motion-picture films, still pictures, and sound recordings, from private sources that are appropriate for preservation by the Government as evidence of its organization, functions, policies, decisions, procedures, and transactions.*

\* \* \* \* \*

## WORLD WAR VETERANS' ACT, 1924, AS AMENDED

\* \* \* \* \*

SEC. 29. The Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is authorized, in his discretion, to lease for a term, not exceeding three years, lands or buildings, or parts or parcels thereof, belonging to the United States and under the control of the Veterans' Administration. *The proceeds from such leases, less expenses for maintenance, operation, and repair of buildings leased for living quarters, shall be covered into the Treasury of the United States as miscellaneous receipts.*



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